

Virginia's Systems Transformation Grant

At a Glance

- Virginia was awarded the Systems Transformation Grant in September 2006 by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) as a part of its "Real Choice Systems Change" Initiative
- Grant funding will assist Virginia with "transforming" the infrastructure of its current long-term support to better serve individuals who are elderly or who have disabilities living in the community

Intent and Funding

- **Intent:** Provide States with a greater level of support to begin or further current initiatives that target key elements of systems **infrastructure** – Approved in the Deficit Reduction Act of Federal FY '07
- **Funding:** Virginia was awarded a grant of \$2.2 million for a five (5)-year period

Grant Phases

- **Application (submitted June 2006)** – Conducted a "Systems Readiness Assessment" that described Virginia's progress toward the goals of systems transformation
- **Planning Phase (October 2006 – June 2007)**– Upon receipt of the grant, states use the first 9 months to develop a vision and a strategic plan for the components of their long-term support system – must be approved by CMS for continued funding
- **Implementation Phase (July 2007- September 2011)**– Once strategic plan is approved by CMS, grantees will have the remainder of the grant to implement grant goals

Goals and Roles

Goal 1: Improved Access to Long-Term Support Services: Development of a One-Stop System (Funding Awarded- \$782,302)

- Majority of funding requested for expanding the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)
- Virginia will use this component of grant funding to build upon and improve the existing one-stop system, towards a system that includes:
 1. The addition of a toll-free line for statewide access to the No Wrong Door (NWD) system (211 Virginia),
 2. Expansion of the provider directory to include individuals with developmental, intellectual, and mental health disabilities who are in need of long-term support services;
 3. Expansion of three existing NWD pilot sites to serve individuals with developmental disabilities and mental health needs; and
 4. The addition of a consumer-directed, web-based portal to the NWD system funded through ADRC) to enable individuals to use the NWD system to seek and receive preliminary eligibility determinations for some services.
- Lead: Virginia Department for the Aging in partnership with Senior Navigator

Goal 2: Increased Choice and Control: Development/ Enhancement of Self-Directed Service Delivery System (Funding Awarded- \$607,264)

- Majority of funding requested for person-centered planning and individual budgeting infrastructure
- Increased choice and control calls for a shift in the locus of control over service delivery; from professionals and programs to individuals in their own homes and communities. Virginia aims to achieve this goal through:
 1. The enhancement of person centered planning for persons who are elderly and who have physical or developmental disabilities;
 2. The development of individual budgets for recipients in the Elderly and Disabled, Mental Retardation, and Developmental Disabilities Waivers; and
 3. Addressing systemic barriers that may impede consumer-direction.
- Lead: Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services in partnership with The Partnership for People with Disabilities

Goal 4: Transformation of Information Technology to Support Systems Change (Funding Awarded - \$378,802)

- Funding requested for
 - Developing a critical incident management reporting system;
 - Upgrading the existing MR waiver service IT system; and
 - Developing an individual online budgeting system for use by consumers.
- Lead: Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services and the Department of Medical Assistance Services

By the end of the five-year grant period, individuals and their families will be able to:

- Access “**No Wrong Door**” to find and apply for long-term supports, through the Internet, through a toll-free line (211), informal resources in the community, or by visiting a physical site
- Enjoy increased choice in **self-direction**, the availability of person-centered planning and individual budgeting options
- Find their own support services through a **web-based system**
- **Access services under the Mental Retardation and Day Support Waivers** more quickly through an upgraded, web-based system that will automate antiquated, paper-driven processes and streamline approval systems
- Have increased confidence in service quality through a **web-based, critical incident reporting system** that will enable the state and local communities to track, identify trends, and improve the quality of services provided.